

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
RUBEN GRIJALVA, STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

P.O. Box 944246
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January 20, 2005

Re: State Fire Marshal Advisory Committees

Over the past several years there have been numerous concerns expressed about the Office of the State Fire Marshal not representing the interests of the fire service. As a former local fire chief I have had similar concerns. It is my goal to ensure that the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) represents the voice of all stakeholders, including the California fire service. In doing this we must act together.

While accepting your support for the position of California State Fire Marshal, I pledged to work on this important issue. I am aware of the budgetary constraints of state and local government. However, I am asking for your help to provide the expertise to correct our past failures. I am asking fire chiefs to consider providing personnel to participate as members of the following State Fire Marshal Advisory Committees which are currently lacking adequate fire service representation:

SFM SPECIAL EFFECTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

GOAL: To provide a means of communications between the Office of the State Fire Marshal, representatives of industry, the public and the fire service; and to seek comments and specific views on proposed regulations and technical issues.

SAFE AND SANE FIREWORKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

GOAL: To provide a means of communications between the Office of the State Fire Marshal, representatives of industry, the public and the fire service; and to seek comments and specific views on proposed regulations and technical issues.

FIRE EXTINGUISHER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

GOAL: To provide a means of communication between the Office of the State Fire Marshal, representatives of industry, the public and the fire service; and to seek comments and specific views on proposed regulations and intended future action.

FIRE ALARM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

GOAL: To advise the State Fire Marshal on proposed regulations and technical issues by providing views and comments from members of industry, the public, and the fire services.

AUTOMATIC EXTINGUISHING SYSTEMS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

GOAL: To provide a means of communication between the Office of the State Fire Marshal, representatives of industry, the public and the fire service; and to seek comments and specific views on proposed regulations and intended future action.

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These committees will meet four times per calendar year, with meetings held in northern and southern California. We will also be looking for departments to host meetings on an occasional basis. Members of these committees will serve without stipend or reimbursement of expenses, and only with the written approval of their fire chief.

With your support, we can change years of inadequate fire service representation and improve fire and life safety for the State of California. Your support in recommending personnel for appointment to these committees, and support of their active participation, will allow fire service participation in the decision-making process for the OSFM.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Grijalva".

RUBEN GRIJALVA
State Fire Marshal